

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 L-03 PPT-01 /017 W

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R 272222Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 474

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 8217

DEPARTMENT FOR SCA AND S/NM

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC, CGEN, SNAR, CO

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SECURITY ADVISORY SERVICES: COLOMBIAN
VISAS, PASSPORTS AND OTHER TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

1. GENERAL MATAALLANA, CHIEF GOC DEPT OF ADMINISTRATIVE
SECURITY (DAS), HAS REQUESTED USG ADVISORY ASSISTANCE
IN IMPROVING SECURITY OF COLOMBIAN PASSPORTS, VISAS AND
OTHER TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OFTEN FALSIFIED OR COUNTERFEITED,
PARTICULARLY BY COLOMBIAN DRUG TRAFFICKERS.

2. DAS, WHICH HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR GOC IMMIGRATION AND

FOREIGN TRAVEL CONTROLS, FACING INCREASINGLY SERIOUS
PROBLEMS WITH SUCH FALSIFICATION AND COUNTERFEITING.
DOCUMENTARY SECURITY PROBLEM IS CLOSELY RELATED TO NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKING IN THAT MAJOR COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKERS OFTEN
TRAVEL TO US AND OTHER COUNTRIES USING FALSE DOCUMENTS
READILY OBTAINABLE HERE. AS DEPT AWARE, LOCAL COUNTER-
FEITERS EQUALLY CAPABLE OF PRODUCING EXCELLENT COPY
OF US VISAS AND COUNTERFOILS.

3. AT PRESENT, DAS HAS AVAILABLE ALMOST NO SPECIALIZED
OFFICERS AND NO SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT FOR SPOTTING FALSE
TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. EMBASSY CONSULAR SECTION HAS BEEN ABLE
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TO TRAIN A HANDFUL OF DAS OFFICERS TO SPOT OBVIOUS ATTEMPTS

COUNTERFEIT US VISAS, BUT WE LACK EXPERTISE GIVE SPECIALIZED
ADVICE AND TRAINING NEEDED TO MOUNT WIDER DOCUMENTARY
SECURITY OPERATIONS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. BECAUSE SUCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
IS IMPORTANT NOT ONLY IN TERMS OF MOUNTING COLOMBIAN VISA
FRAUD, BUT ALSO IN CONNECTION WITH JOINT NARCOTICS CONTROL
PROGRAMS, REQUEST DEPT CONSIDER MOST APPROPRIATE WAYS IN
WHICH WE MIGHT BE RESPONSIVE TO GENERAL MATAALLANA'S
REQUEST WITHIN SHORTEST TIME FRAME. WE WOULD SUGGEST
SENDING DOCUMENTARY SECURITY SPECIALIST TO BOGOTA FOR
BRIEF TDY STUDY GOC TRAVEL DOCUMENT SECURITY PRACTICES AND
ADVISE DAS ON WHAT IMPROVEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

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